

Little Known Curbside Recycling Services

Do you have some shoes in your closet your kids have outgrown? How about an old printer gathering dust on your desk? Maybe a jug of used motor oil that is taking up space in your garage?

Believe it or not, single family (house) Kirkland residents can recycle all of those items and more for free at the curb all year around! Some of the little known (and free) curbside services available include:

- Usable clothing and linens (textiles)
- Used motor oil
- Electronics
- Shredded paper
- Extra recycling
- Extra yard waste

For a full list of specific items collected, instructions, and restrictions, please visit www.wmnorthwest.com/kirkland/recycling.html



Right Plant, Right Place

Looking to put new plants in your yard this spring? Consider planting a native plant that is well-suited to the Pacific Northwest environment and will be strong, healthy, and less prone to diseases and pests. Find out whether your plant choice prefers full sunlight or shade, and plant it where it will get the right amount of light. Here are some examples of native plants that will look beautiful in your garden and grow well in our climate:



		Sun	Partial Shade	Shade	Evergreen (E), Deciduous (D)	
Trees	Vine Maple (<i>Acer circinatum</i>)	X	X	X	D	Small; great fall color
	Mountain Hemlock (<i>Tsuga mertensiana</i>)	X	X		E	Small in garden setting; drought tolerant
Shrubs	Cascade Oregon Grape (<i>Mahonia nervosa</i>)	X	X	X	E	Drought tolerant
	Mock Orange (<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>)	X	X		D	Fragrant flowers
Ground-cover	Beach Strawberry (<i>Frangaria chiloensis</i>)	X			E	Spreading groundcover
	Kinnikinnick (<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>)	X	X		E	Pinkish-white flowers; red fruit
Perennials	Deer Fern (<i>Blechnum spicant</i>)	X	X	X	E	
	False Solomon's Seal (<i>Smilacena racemosa</i>)		X	X	D	White flowers; red fruit

Reuse•Recycle•Conserve



City of Kirkland
Department of Public Works
123 5th Avenue
Kirkland, Washington 98033

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Kirkland Residents:

Did You Know?



Fluorescent bulbs and tubes cannot be disposed of in the garbage in King County and should be recycled. For a list of local recyclers, visit www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle (click on

Fluorescent Bulb Recycling) or www.takeitbacknetwork.org.



Recycling Collection Event

PRESENTED BY: City of Kirkland & King County
WHAT: Residential Collection Event
Clean out your garage and safely recycle items that normally cannot be left at the curb with your regular Waste Management pick-up service or recycled readily through product stewardship programs. Examples of items that you can bring are: tires, motor oil, batteries, clothing, porcelain toilets and sinks, electronic equipment and computer peripherals, and bulky wood. **No paint of any kind will be accepted.**

WHERE: Houghton Park & Ride (NE 70th St & I 16th Ave NE)
WHEN: Saturday, April 24, 9 AM to 3 PM

Important note!!! Due to the new E-Cycle Washington Program, **we will no longer accept televisions, desktop and laptop computers, and computer monitors at our Kirkland Recycling Collection Events.** We will still continue to accept all other electronic devices at our events to include cell phones, printers, scanners, fax machines, mice, and keyboards. For more information on the E-Cycle Washington Program or to find a convenient free collection site near you, please visit www.ecyclewashington.org.



Single family (house) residents can still recycle all their electronics items at the curb year-round. Call Waste Management Customer Service at (800) 592-9995 at least one day before your regular garbage day or schedule the service on-line at www.wmnorthwest.com/kirkland.

Not sure what to do with those hard to recycle items? Visit King County's "What Do I Do With..." web site from www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle.

Fluorescent tubes and bulbs can be recycled at this event! (limit 10 tubes/ bulbs per person)



For tips on securing your load, please see kingcounty.gov and enter "secure your load" or call (206) 296-4466.



* Restrictions apply and some items are not collected. User fees cover the cost of proper processing and recycling. All items collected will be recycled. View the flyer at www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle or call the Recycling Hotline at (425) 587-3812 for more information.

Funding provided by the King County Solid Waste Division, King County Local Hazardous Waste Management Program, and the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Spring 2010

Single Family Issue

Reuse•Recycle•Conserve

City of Kirkland Public Works Department



WATCH FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Earth Day (April 22)
Special Collection Event (April 24)
Spring Garden Fair (April 24)
Juanita Creek Restoration Project (May 1)
Everest Creek Restoration Project (May 22)

INSIDE

Recycling Kits Available
Puget Sound Starts Here
Reduce Waste this Earth Day
Car Washing Tips
Why Save Water? Every Drop Counts...

Visit us at www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle

Renew Your Lawn this Spring

Improve the health of your lawn this spring or fall by aerating, applying new grass seed, and topdressing with compost.

Aerating will improve soil drainage and improve root development. You can rent a power aerator or hire a professional to do the job. The soil should be moist, and making two or more passes gives better results. Leave the cores on the lawn and rake or mow to break them up - the soil left will help to decompose excess thatch layers in the lawn.



Next, overseed with a rye-fescue mix adapted to the Pacific Northwest. Talk with a knowledgeable nursery person or call the WSU Cooperative Extension at (206) 296-3440, for a seed recommendation.

Lastly, cover the lawn with a quarter-inch layer of fine compost to fill the aeration holes and further improve soil conditions. Rake out the compost so that the grass stands up through it.

Want to know more about caring for your yard naturally? Check out these resources:

- Northwest Natural Yard and Garden - www.kingcounty.gov (search Natural Yard Care)
Vast collection of natural yard care resources, including sample planting plans.
- The Garden Hotline – www.gardenhotline.org, help@gardenhotline.org, (206) 633-0224
Individualized solutions to garden problems that are practical, safe, effective and natural.
- Natural Yard Design workshops - badams@ci.kirkland.wa.us, (425) 587-3858
Attend this series of 3 workshops in Kirkland this fall.
- Spring Garden Fair - www.springgardenfair.com
Amazing speakers & excellent gardening products will be at this fair on April 24th.

Puget Sound Starts Here

Puget Sound starts with us. It starts anywhere in the Puget Sound region. It starts in our yards, in our parks, and in our streets. It starts wherever we are. Any chemicals, litter, or pet waste that we leave on the ground can eventually end up in Puget Sound. What we do “here” has serious impacts on our local waterways and eventually on Puget Sound. Visit www.pugetsoundstartshere.org to learn more.



GET INVOLVED!

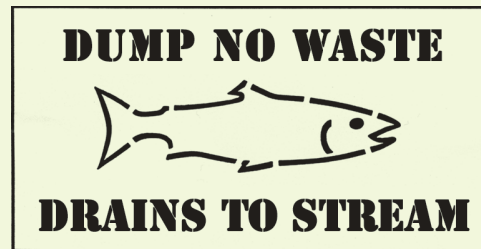
Super Scoopers

Are you interested in helping to keep our parks clean and healthy? Do you like talking with people? If you answered “yes” to these questions, we need your help! Join the “Super Scoopers” to help educate dog walkers on the importance of cleaning up after their pets. Volunteer training and materials are provided.

Storm Drain Marking

Did you know there are over 9,000 storm drains on our streets in Kirkland? Did you know the water that enters these drains flows to our local creeks, lakes and wetlands without any treatment? That means that a rain storm or water from a hose can wash pesticides from our lawns or soap from our driveway car washes down a drain and eventually into our local waterways.

Volunteer to mark the drains in your neighborhood with the message “**Dump No Waste, Drains to Stream.**” Materials are provided.



Restoration Events

Help improve the health of our local stream buffers. Spend the day maintaining restoration sites. Work includes planting native plants and removing invasive plants.

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

- **Juanita Beach Park – May 1, 9 AM - 1 PM**
Join us in maintaining this beautiful restoration project along Juanita Creek.
- **Everest Park – May 22, 9 AM - 1 PM**
Help restore the native plant population along Everest Creek.



For more information or to sign up for any of these programs or projects, please contact Betsy Adams (425) 587-3858 or badams@ci.kirkland.wa.us.

Reduce Waste this Earth Day

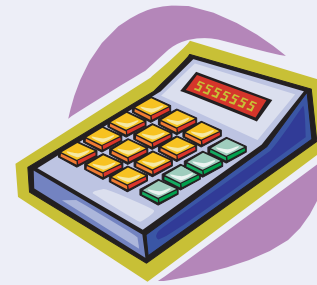
April 22nd is the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. What a great time to focus on reducing waste and reusing materials! Here are some ideas to get you started:

- **Purchase Durable Products:** Reusable, durable products reduce our demand for raw materials. For example, use reusable water bottles and fill with tap water, instead of purchasing plastic single use water bottles.



- **Purchase Concentrated Products:** They require less packaging and use less resources to transport to stores. There are many options available for purchasing items in concentrated form. Look for items such as laundry detergents, cleaning products, and juices offered in concentrated form.

- **Visit Ecodeals.org:** Use the “waste calculator” to determine the impact of your purchasing choices. Find tips and resources to help you reduce your environmental impact.



- **End Junk Mail:** About 90 billion pieces of direct mail are sent each year. Do your part to reduce this waste by opting out of unwanted subscriptions!
 - o Get off credit offer lists: Call 1.888.5OPTOUT
 - o Sign up for the Mail Preference Service: www.dmachoice.org/dma
 - o Opt out of paper catalogs: www.catalogchoice.org
 - o Find more tips: your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/wasteprevention

- **Donate Unwanted Reusable Items:** Instead of tossing items you no longer want, donate them. A number of locations in Kirkland accept reusable materials for donation, including Totem Lake Goodwill (12221 120th Ave NE) and Value Village (12515 116th Ave NE).

- **Host Zero Waste Parties:** Whether it is a birthday party, dinner party or a cook out, there are many easy ways to reduce waste. Use reusable dishes, cups and utensils whenever possible. For more ideas, visit www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle (click on Waste Reduction).

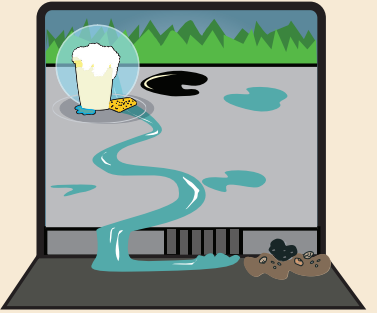


Comments

The City of Kirkland would like to hear your comments about this newsletter or your suggestions for future issues. Please call (425) 587-3907 or email vsheth@ci.kirkland.wa.us.

Car Washing

The family car is parked in the driveway, a bucket full of soapy water sits on the pavement, and a hose lies uncoiled on the ground ready to wash away the grime. It's a common image during the spring and summer months. While our elbow-grease might produce a shiny, clean vehicle, driveway car washing also has some unfortunate and unintended consequences.



Few people realize that washing a car in the driveway is one of the most environmentally un-friendly chores. Unlike our household wastewater, which goes to the sanitary sewer for treatment, this wash water – a mixture of water, soap, oil, dirt, and other pollutants - runs down the street and into the storm drain. It then dumps into the nearest lake, stream, or wetland with no treatment. This filthy cocktail is harmful, even poisonous, to fish and wildlife and can wreak havoc on ecosystems.

Commercial car washes treat wastewater

The most environmentally-friendly option is to use a commercial car wash – automatic or self-serve. Car wash facilities are required to send their wastewater to the sanitary sewer, so it gets treated before being sent back into the great outdoors. Commercial car washes also minimize water use and most recycle their water, using 60 percent less water for the whole process than a homeowner uses just to rinse their vehicle.

Why Save Water? Every Drop Counts...

Save Water, Save Money

By making just a few simple changes to use water more efficiently, you could save about 30 percent per year on your water and sewer bill. Using water more efficiently reduces the need for costly water supply infrastructure investments and new wastewater treatment facilities.

If all U.S. households installed water-efficient appliances, the country would save more than three trillion gallons of water and more than \$18 billion dollars per year! (Environmental Protection Agency)

Save Water, Save Energy

It takes a considerable amount of energy to deliver and treat the water you use everyday. American public water supply and treatment facilities consume about 56 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year—enough electricity to power more than five million homes for an entire year. Saving water not only reduces the energy required to supply and treat public water supplies but also can help address climate change.

If one out of every 100 American homes retrofitted with water-efficient fixtures, we could save about 100 million kWh of electricity per year—avoiding 80,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. That is equivalent to removing nearly 15,000 automobiles from the road for one year! (EPA)



Water Efficiency and the Environment

Depleting reservoirs and groundwater can put water supplies, human health, and the environment at serious risk. Lower water levels can contribute to higher concentrations of natural or human pollutants. Using water more efficiently helps maintain supplies at safe levels, protecting human health and the environment.

For tips on how to save water, visit cascadewater.org.